11.54 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to restore Vayudoot service from Hyderabad to Bhubaneshwar.

[*English*]

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur) Sir, I would like to submit a matter of urgent public importance under Rule 377.

About two years back, there was a Vayudoot service from Hyderabad to Bhubaneswar via Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam and Jeypore. The Dornier flight met with an accident after some time near Poona in Maharashtra. Since then, the flight is not operating due to non-availability of aircraft. The passengers from Bhubaneswar and Jeypore used to avail of the facility of this Vayudoot service to its full capacity. Now they face a lot of difficulties as they have to travel by road from Jeypore to Bhubaneswar or Visakhapatnam through Eastern Ghat mountains which takes about 8 and 16 hours to reach Visakhapatnam and Bhubaneswar respectively.

I, therefore, request the Minister of Civil Aviation to restore the Vayudoot service immediately.

(ii) Need to set up a regional autonomous development council for Western Orissa.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): It is a matter of regret that proper attention is not being paid for the overall development of Western Orissa. As a result, in this region of Orissa which is full of natural resources with large tribal population, resentment and discontentment among the people is very much on the rise. What is therefore required is to set up a regional autonomous development council for Western Orissa forthwith in order to ensure its speedy all round development, fighting out its ever-increasing backwardness and regional imbalances.

(iii) Need to allocate funds for channelisation of water of river Swan in Una district of Himachal Pradesh.

[*Translation*]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the river Swan and its 73 tributaries create havoc every year in Una district of Himachal Pradesh in the rainy season. Every year crops and properties worth crores of rupees are swept away. There is heavy loss of life and property. Many people become homeless and they have to face great difficulties. State Government and the Central Government have been requested many times for the channelisation of water of this river but nothing has been done in this regard.

If river Swan and its 73 Tributaries are channelised, not only property worth crores of rupees can be saved, but thousands of acres of agricultural land will be available for agricultural purposes. If this is done sugar-cane, ground-nut, grain and fruits may be produced in abundance there, which will fulfil the requirements of the State as well as of the country. With limited resources the State Government cannot carry out this task. Hence, I request the Central Government to allocate adequate funds in the Budget of this year for that purpose so that people could get relief.

(iv) Need to review the policy of the Government in respect of opium farming in Madhya Pradesh and to provide necessary help to opium growers.

DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, due to the Government's policy in respect of opium farming, which is job oriented and a source of raising foreign exchange, thousands of opium growers of Madhya Pradesh are in distress. Due to heavy loss to this crop in the year 1990-91 and arbitrariness of the authorities, such a situation is there that their licences are